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Best Value Colleges Ranks Cedarville Among Ohio's Best

CEDARVILLE, OHIO – The Miami Valley is known for many qualities. SmartAsset.com just added higher education to the list of qualities that makes southwestern Ohio even more special.

According to SmartAsset.com's recent survey of the best value colleges in Ohio, three Dayton-area universities are part of the top 10 schools in Ohio. The University of Dayton is ranked No. 5, while Cedarville University follows at No. 6. Wright State University rounds out at No. 10.

The best value colleges, according to SmartAsset, focuses on each school's average financial aid available to students, the average starting salary after graduation, tuition, living costs and student retention rates. Final rankings are indicated by SmartAsset's College Education Value Index.

The starting average for Cedarville graduates is slightly behind the University of Dayton, however, with the first class of pharmacists graduating in May, salaries of recent graduates will increase. The University will graduate 48 doctor of pharmacy students May 6. Cedarville has the only professional pharmacy school in the Miami Valley, and is just one of seven in Ohio.

Among Cedarville's most notable statistics in the ranking, according to SmartAsset, were the students' cost of living, its tuition and retention rates. Room and board costs Cedarville students \$8,600 annually--well below the state and national averages. Tuition is \$27,910--the lowest among the five private universities in the ranking, while Cedarville's retention rate of 85.5 percent is among the top five highest rates.

SmartAsset is a financial technology company providing the web's best answers to commonly asked personal finance questions. Through a combination of proprietary software and data, the company provides automated and deeply personalized advice on higher education, home ownership, retirement and life insurance.

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 3,711 undergraduate, graduate, and online students in more than 100 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings, and leading student satisfaction ratings. For more information about the University, visit www.cedarville.edu.